

## THE POST OFFICES OF WAYNE COUNTY, KENTUCKY

Kentucky's forty third county, a 670 square mile area taken from Green, Cumberland, and Pulaski Counties, was authorized by the Kentucky legislature on December 18, 1800. It was named for Philadelphia-born Anthony Wayne (1745-1796), a Revolutionary War general and the commander of American forces in the Indian wars of the 1790s who negotiated the Treaty of Greenville (1795) ending Indian forays south of the Ohio. In 1804 the county gained forty square miles from Adair County; lost ten square miles to Pulaski County in 1818 and another fifty toward the creation of Russell County in 1826. In 1831 it gained ten from Pulaski County but lost thirty toward the creation of Clinton in 1836 and another 140 toward the creation of McCreary in 1912. Its present 459 square mile area, probably including its share of the waters of Lake Cumberland, is home to some 20,500 residents (in 2006, a forty three per cent increase over 1970).

Wayne is at the western end of the Eastern Kentucky Coal Field and the eastern end of the Pennyroyal or Mississippi Plateau (separated by the Cumberland Escarpment crossing the county from southwest to northeast.) The latter is "a karst or sinkhole plain" with an irregular topography, actually "erosional remnants of the relatively level plateau in the east."<sup>1</sup> The county is drained by the main Cumberland River channel and its principal tributaries: the Big South Fork (with its Little South Fork, Big and Cedar Sinking Creeks, and Turkey Creek), Meadow, White Oak, Faubush, Fall, Beaver (with its Elk Spring Creek), and Otter (with its Carpenter Fork) Creeks.

Though likely visited in the late 1760s by Virginia and North Carolina based hunters with encampments near Mill Springs, the county's

first permanent settlement was probably Benjamin Price's camp and station established in 1775 near the mouth of Meadow Creek. Other pioneers were Cornelius Phillips, Isaac West, James Simpson, Nicholas Lloyd, and Henry Garner, and families of Jones, Ingram, Parmley, Burnett, Ryan, Bell, Young, Dobbs, Denney, Barrier, Parker, Koger, and Gregory whose settlements, as such, were mostly isolated farmsteads throughout the future county and whose names were given to many of its places and features.

Through World War Two the county's economy was mostly based on agriculture, timbering, oil production, and some coal mining, and the processing of these natural resources. Its first manufacturing plant of any consequence was not built till 1955, but by the mid 1960s, especially with the development of Lake Cumberland and the local celebrations of the county's early history, Wayne's economic base had begun to diversify. Industrial development was obviously handicapped by the absence of railroads linking the county with the "outside world" and its commercial limitation to the river and, later, to such roads as the two lane Ky 90 and 92.

Post offices will be described below by their situations on major streams and roadways and located by road miles from the square in downtown Monticello or other offices in their respective neighborhoods.

The county's first settlement of any consequence, and now its only incorporated place, the fourth class city of Monticello [mahn(t)/ə/sehl/oh or mahn(t)/ə/sehl/ə], is 105 road miles ssw of downtown Lexington (via US 27 to Burnside and Ky 90). It was founded in 1801 on thirteen acres owned by William Beard two miles up Elk Spring Creek, and because of its central location was chosen the

new county's seat over two other contenders--Price's Station and the Parmley settlement at Horse Hollow. According to tradition, the pioneer Jones family wanted to name the new town Jonesboro but the fifteen year old county court clerk Micah Taul, asked by others to suggest another name, offered Monticello for Jefferson's Virginia home.

The new county seat's post office, following convention, was to be called Wayne Court House and, according to old postal records, Joseph Baird (sic) (probably William's brother James Beard) was appointed postmaster on September 7, 1802. For some reason, though, it did not open and the office was re-established on January 1, 1803 as Monticello Court House, with Roger Oatts, postmaster. The town was not incorporated until January 18, 1810.

In recent years the town has expanded past Buster Mountain to include the airport and the Colletts Hill Subdivision west of new Ky. 90, Dobbs Mountain and the Elk Springs Cemetery all the way southwest to the mouth of Elk Spring Creek, a southwest to northeast distance of five miles and a range from southeast to northwest of almost  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles. This increased its population to <sup>ce. 6,000</sup> ~~6,000~~ <sup>2006</sup> (a 2004 Census estimate), some seventy per cent from 1970. The town's businesses now include a large chicken hatchery, a cooperative vegetable marketing service for area farmers, a wire and cable company, a boat builder, and several clothing factories.

#### POST OFFICES IN THE VALLEY SOUTH OF THE MAIN CUMBERLAND RIVER CHANNEL

Most of the Cumberland Valley's post offices were established to serve river craft landings. The first of these in Wayne County, and its second oldest post office, was the aptly named Mill Springs.

The first of at least three mills just below the mouth of Meadow Creek and half a mile below Price's Landing was a fourteen springs-fed grist mill built for the Metcalfe Brothers (John, Charles, and James) in 1816-17.<sup>2</sup> The mill was soon joined by a cotton gin, wool carding factory, wagon shop, and flatboat (later steamboat) landing as the nucleus of a community that soon took the name Mill Springs. After the mill was destroyed by a fire in 1824 a second mill was built in 1839. In 1856 it and the surrounding property were acquired by Lloyd Addison Lanier, a Nashville steamboat captain. It was rebuilt in 1879, and by 1885 had become a roller mill. In 1907, under new owner Bolan Roberts, it became the Diamond Roller Mills with a forty foot overshot waterwheel. It was operated by Roberts' son Thomas S. until 1949 when it and the surrounding land were sold to the federal government just prior to the river's impoundment, and fulltime commercial operation ended. In 1950 the feds. leased the mill site (on the present Ky 1275, 200 feet south of the lake) to the Kentucky Highway Department for a state park. Several years later, through the efforts of many interested area residents, the mill was placed on the National Register and restored by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to full operation as a tourist attraction.

On July 30, 1825 John Metcalfe, Jr. opened the Mill Springs post office a short distance south of the mill. It occupied several vicinity sites till, in 1935, it was moved to its last site at the junction of (the present) Rte. 1275 and old 90, half a mile below Meadow Creek, and 8 3/4 miles nne of Monticello. Here it was suspended, with much opposition, on May 3, 1991.

Today Mill Springs is a village of some 250 residents centered on Everette Dunagan's Grocery and Supply, the long time post office

site, but extending along 1275 west almost to Dak Grove, and southeast to The Crossroads (see Touristville, below), up the river for nearly a mile to include Mill Springs Heights and Mystic View, and south on old 90 (or the Old Mill Springs Road) to include the famed Metcalfe House.

Below Mill Springs was the roughly three miles long Conley Bottom which, in pre-impoundment days, extended east from Cumberland Ridge to a point two miles above the Bud Post Office-Robertsport Landing site and one mile below the Springs. This stretch (and the uplands to the south) was first settled, and may have been owned, by John Hammond, Sr, and his sons (ca. 1801)<sup>3</sup> or by Col. Charles Dibrell and his wife Martha (ca. 1800) on land Charles had acquired in 1797. When, shortly thereafter, the Dibrells moved to Tennessee his land was left to his son John L. but was later sold to Charles Hart whose daughter Catherine married Charles Winfield Conley (1808-1899), a West Virginia native. Other Hart heirs by then had sold their shares to Squire Roberts (1800-1881) who, in 1849, sold some 350 acres to Conley, giving the latter almost total possession of the bottom which took his name.

Around 1845 William F. McKinney, a local ferryman, petitioned the Kentucky legislature to establish a town to be called McKinneysville at a site about a mile above the Ridge and three miles below (northwest of) Mill Springs. But his plans for it failed to materialized and in 1848 he left for Missouri giving Squire Roberts power-of-attorney to settle his local affairs. In 1850 the legislature, by petition, changed the proposed town's name to Robertsport.<sup>4</sup> By the early 1850s Squire's son Granville C. was operating a store, steamboat landing and warehouse, shipping area produce and supplying the Monticello market. From February 11, 1859 to July 10, 1860 Granville operated here the Robertsport post office.

The reason for the office's short tenure is not known, for the landing and store continued to operate as Robertsport (with mail supplied by Mill Springs) till the office was re-established, on December 23, 1897, as Bud. Named for Charles Conley, Jr. (1854-1943), called "Bud", it was first maintained by John M. Buck, a stonemason, who had purchased Granville's store. From November 1906 till it closed in April 1940, the office was run, in succession, by Bud's sons Allison, Frank, and Thomas M. ("Mit") and Mit's wife Myrtle in their family's store near Buck's. It served the Bottom and the surrounding uplands on both sides of the river including Oak Grove and the Ard Peninsula (between the Faubush and White Oak Creeks). Until the late 1920s when steamboats were no longer a major river force the Landing generic alone continued to be applied to the vicinity in local speech.

By 1950 the landing, store, and post office site were in the Lake Cumberland waters. But the Conley Bottom name survives in a resort complex at the end of Rte. 1765 (the Robertsport Road), less than half a mile southwest of the landing site. With a long term lease from the Corps the resort's owners maintain a full service marina, lodging and camping facilities, and other services for summer visitors.

The shortlived (March 12, 1866 to September 20, 1869) Cumberland post office (not to be confused with the predecessor of Burnside) served the half mile wide fertile Ganns Bottom. Forming the south bank of the river for six miles between the mouth of Harmons Creek and the mouth of Mill Hollow, the Bottom was first settled in the early nineteenth century by the family of North Carolina-born Thomas and Frances (Richardson) Gann. The office was in a store maintained by two Gann grandsons William K. and James F., its only postmasters, at a site half a mile east of the river, 1½ miles above (north of) Harmons Creek, and sixteen miles below Mill Springs (thus southeast of the first site

of the future Bart post office.) The entire Bottom is now in the lake.<sup>5</sup>

Another early nineteenth century family that settled on acquired land south of the river was Thomas Norman's (died ca. 1833). Sometime before 1842 his son Edmund (1795-1863) established a landing on the river, at the northern end of Norman's Ferry Road, between Normans and Davis Hollows (6½ miles nnw of Monticello). By the 1870s this had become Monticello's principal river outlet and the nucleus of a village called Norman's Warehouse. But when its post office was opened on August 23, 1881 by James Henderson Eades (sic), the owner of the landing, freight house, and store (and Thomas' great grandson), his preferred name Normans was replaced by the still inexplicable Agnew [ægh/nū]. Eades alone maintained the office only till late April 1884 though the landing, under several owners, continued to serve Monticello well into the twentieth century. Van Russell, its last owner, sold the property to the federal government before the river's impoundment, and the site is also in the lake.

The Rankins were yet another family whose name was given to a mill, store, post office, and, for a while, the community centered on them. The local progenitor was Arthur Rankin, born around 1827 in Paisley, Scotland, near Glasgow, who arrived with his family in Wayne County around 1848. In 1849 he acquired the water-powered McHenry's Flour Mill, more commonly known as the Falls Creek Mill for its location about a mile up this aptly named stream.<sup>6</sup> within a few years he had also opened a store, carding factory, blacksmith shop, sawmill, and river landing. In 1882 he sold everything to his brother Thomas (1831-1905) who, in the early 1890s, sold out to another brother William L. Until it was torn down with the impoundment it was operated by William, his sons Sam, Loyd, and John, and their brother-in-law Jesse Oatts.

On June 13, 1882 Thomas established the Rankin post office<sup>7</sup> to serve what was then called the Fall Creek community. The office, in Thomas' store, was on the hill just southeast of the mill, 1.3 miles east of the (pre-impoundment) river, and 7½ miles north of Monticello. On March 5, 1891 brother William became postmaster, and on December 9, 1905 William's son Loyd took over and, with William L. Stokes, operated it through November 1926. Loyd had it re-established in March 1935 and ran it through November 1937 when it closed for good. Little remains of the community it served but a few homes above the Falls Creek embayment and a boat ramp by the lake.

The Eads family gave its name to Eads Bottom on the north side of the river (see below) and Eads Landing and Eadsville on the south. On June 27, 1890 (Squire) James Edward Eads, son/<sup>of</sup>Preston, established the Eadsville post office in his store 0.4 miles south of the Landing (just across the river from the southwest corner of Union Ridge). Several months later his wife assumed the postmastership which he re-assumed in May 1910. Following his death his son Joel Stephen (1924) moved the office nearly three fourths of a mile south to his store on the Lock Road (now Ky 789), just south of the Parmleys Grove Church and five miles nnw of Monticello where it closed on his retirement on May 31, 1950.

#### POST OFFICES IN THE MAIN CUMBERLAND VALLEY NORTH OF THE RIVER

The first Wayne post office north of the river was Gose [ghohs]. This was established by and probably named for the first of its two postmasters John Christian Gose, son of Henry and Minerva (Eads) Gose. His first name choice may have been the inexplicable Etha, and from October 7, 1891 to December 8, 1902 it served a locality called Henry Clay and the 7.2 square mile area still known as the Ard Peninsula. More precisely it was one mile north of the (pre-impoundment) river, two miles west of White Oak Creek, and four miles northwest of Mill Springs.<sup>8</sup>



The Ard Peninsula, between Faubush and White Oak Creeks, south of the Pulaski County line, and including Cumberland Point, was named for the descendants of North Carolina-born Reuben Ard (1769-1845). It's not to be confused with the Ard Ridge, mostly in Pulaski County between the Faubush and Bee Lick Creeks, and once owned by Reuben's son James.

Just north of the mouth of the Cumberland River's Thomas Branch in Russell County, Christopher Columbus Thomas, on June 6, 1897, established the intexplicably named Palace post office. By 1902 Stanton P. Loving had it moved to Wayne County's lower Eads Bottom on Union Ridge, half a mile south of the Russell line. By 1912, after Laura B. Coomer had become postmaster, the office was in her husband Jim's store, half a mile east of the river and one mile south of Thomas Branch and the county line. On May 29, 1920 Laura had its name changed to Cedarcrest (probably for the local trees), and in the following year had the office moved half a mile east to (the present) Ky 196, half a mile from the county line. She was succeeded by Jim's sister (by then Mrs. Joe Morrow) who ran the office in Joe's store, and later in their home, till April 5, 1957 when it closed.

Fringing Union Ridge for 7½ miles from the mouth of Thomas Branch was Eads Bottom. It was probably named for its first settler Charles Henderson Eads (1755-1823), a Revolutionary War veteran from Amherst County, Virginia, who arrived there around 1800. In addition to Palace it was served by the Morrow and Grape post offices.

Morrow [mahr/ə], in the north edge of the Bottom (half a mile from the river, across from Eads Landing), was established on June 3, 1902 by a local storekeeper John Clark Morrow. His widow Arrena (by then Mrs. Charles Loy Thurston) assumed charge of the office in July 1915 and had it moved over a mile east to a site, also at the north edge of the Bottom but due north of Normans Landing (6½ miles north of Monticello), where she ran it through February 1918.

On January 20, 1927 Charles Loy Thurston re-established the post office at the second Morrow site, in the local store he and Arrena still operated. Three names were submitted--Morrow, Hulon (for their young son, but then in use in Bell County), and Grape (probably for the area's wild grapes), which was chosen. On February 1, 1937 Arrena's daughter Rosa Morrow, who by then had married the local storekeeper Tom Johnson, assumed charge of the office and ran it through February 1949 shortly before the impoundment. Both post office sites are now also in the lake.

Another Union Ridge post office Ferris (name derivation unknown), was established on March 26, 1903 in Bolin Hatfield's store between Shinbone Cliff (overlooking the river from the west) and the Russell County line, in the Ridge's northeast corner. Bolin's brother Moses Harrison Hatfield was its first postmaster.<sup>9</sup> On January 30, 1904 the Hatfields had the name changed to the equally inexplicable Dell. On September 19, 1907 Chesley B. Stacy moved the post office to a site just above the forks of Thomas Branch, just within Russell County, to serve the two county area between Denneys Ridge and Union Ridge. In May 1912 Stacy's sister Catherine (by then Mrs. Thomas Serber Coomer) brought it back to Wayne County somewhere in the vicinity of the later Cedarcrest where it operated till mid October 1918.<sup>10</sup>

#### POST OFFICES ON THE CUMBERLAND RIVER TRIBUTARIES: THE BIG SOUTH FORK

On July 6, 1910 John Perry New established a post office in his store on a plateau three-fourths of a mile west of the Pulaski-McCreary-Wayne Counties convergence, on the Big South Fork, at the mouth of McCreary County's Cooper Creek. Though he named it for his seven year old daughter Flossie, it operated through January 1944 as Flosie [flahs/ee], a Post Office Department error never corrected.<sup>11</sup> The immediate vicinity is now all but abandoned.

On August 9, 1907 General T. Morrow's February 14 authorization for a Keith post office in the east end of the 3.4 mile long aptly named Dry Valley, was rescinded. On March 5, 1925 another Keith post office was authorized with storekeeper Tilmon Keith actually operating it, with Andrew Jones and Myrta Hardwick, till mid September 1928, on (the present) Rocky Hill Road, 300 yards southwest of the Big South Fork and Pulaski County. The Keiths were the two-county descendants of William Keith (ne Virginia in 1759, a Revolutionary War veteran) and his son the Rev. John Keith.

#### POST OFFICES ON THE LITTLE SOUTH FORK OF THE BIG SOUTH FORK

The forty five mile long Little South Fork was known as King Fork (of the Big South Fork) by early settlers and the Little South Fork at least by 1810 since it's mentioned in Robert Parmley's deed to the Bethel Church referring therein to his 200 acres on the Little South Fork. The Fork heads in a large spring in Pickett County, Tennessee, 1½ miles south of the state line, meanders in a generally northeasterly direction forming for its entire Kentucky run the western boundary of the Daniel Boone National Forest, and for its last seventeen miles the Wayne-McCreary County line. It joins the Big South Fork over five miles south of the Pulaski-McCreary-Wayne convergence.

The first of the five post offices in the Little South Fork watershed was Parmleysville whose vicinity is said to have been first settled in the early 1780s, probably by Revolutionary War veteran John Parmley (1762-1848) whose name was first applied to it at some later, as yet undetermined, time.

According to tradition, the 2 3/4 mile long Horse Hollow, which joins the Fork just above the site of the old Parmleysville store and post office, was once the secluded habitation of a band of horse thieves. It later became the site of one of Kentucky's earliest public "high

stakes" horse race tracks, attracting entries and spectators from a considerable distance. Thus the community that grew up around its Little South Fork confluence (sixteen miles ese of Monticello) was also referred to by some as Horse Hollow.

The first store to serve this vicinity was probably on the south side of the Fork, just across from and above the site of the Bethel Baptist Church, organized in 1810 on John Parmley's land. Here, on February 15, 1861, James H. Burnett, of another pioneer family, established the Parmleysville post office. For much of the nineteenth century this community's economic base was lumbering, with logs floated down the Fork and the Big South Fork, ultimately to the river and the Burnside rail port. Oil drilling later attracted area settlement which ended when that boom burst. After several short distance moves up and down the Fork (and the present Rte. 1756), the post office closed at the end of 1958 and little remains of the community but the church.

Some five miles up the Fork from Parmleysville was Mount Pisgah. This vicinity was probably settled before 1810 by Emmanuel Sandusky, Benjamin Adkins, and others around a church whose name it took. The church, like so many others in this part of the country, had been named for the Biblical elevation from whose summit Moses first viewed the Promised Land. The local post office was not established till November 26, 1877 by storekeeper Isaac M. Shoemaker several hundred yards north of the Fork. By the mid 1890s the community it served had two stores, a hotel and saloon, several other businesses, and Joseph Hurt's famous flour and saw mill.<sup>12</sup> In 1939 the office was moved half a mile down the Fork to a site just west of Dobbs Hollow, but in 1950 it was in a store just across (the present) Ky 167 from

its original site (14½ miles south of Monticello) where it closed in October 1951. The church alone survived the area's brief oil boom.

The Ritner post office, established on April 29, 1890 by Isaac Jones and operated through October 1988 by other Joneses, was first located by the Ritner (grist) mill at the mouth of the Little South Fork's Lick Creek. By 1915 it was in Schoolhouse Hollow, one fourth of a mile up from the Fork, serving a thriving timbering community. Its name has always puzzled county historians and local people alike since there were no area families of that name and nothing is known of the mill and its founders. One may wonder if it could have honored Pennsylvania's Governor Joseph Ritner (1780-1869), famed for actuating his state's public school system.

Better known for Kentucky's first racially integrated school, the Griffin name was also applied to a store, post office and school in Steele Hollow between the Steele Old Mill on the Little South Fork and the McCreary County line.<sup>13</sup> John W. Steele who established the post office on April 19, 1898 first proposed to call it Alaska (for the by then widely publicized Klondike Gold Rush) but opened it in his store as the unexplained Griffin. It closed in mid October 1917. By then oil was being drilled west of the Fork and the Griffin name was applied to the local pool and by the 1930s to a second school, nearly a mile west of the Fork (this was the one integrated in 1955 but closed ten years later), and a store on (the present) Rte. 1756, three fourths of a mile west of the Fork and just southeast of the "new" school site.

Just below (northeast of) the mouth of Kennedy (Canadas) Creek a family of Kidds had a Little South Fork crossing. Here, from March 1, 1910 through 1913, Henry E. Kidd ran the Kidds Crossing post office. On October 20, 1919 George P. Anderson re-established it at or near

Kidd's site, but in 1928 (George) Ezekiel Anderson had it moved three fourths of a mile north to a site about 300 yards west of the Fork (and the McCreary County line). Sometime before 1939 it was moved again, to a site on (the present) Ky 92, 0.4 miles west of the Fork (and the county line). When it closed in July 1951 it was in Hubert Corder's store, serving the Concord Church Neighborhood.

#### POST OFFICES ON BIG SINKING CREEK

This aptly named stream heads about 1½ miles nne of Coopersville and extends for some 16½ miles northeast to the Big South Fork just below Gourd Neck. In the nineteenth century logs were rafted down this stream to the Big South Fork and thence down to Burnside, fourteen miles north. The stream was identified on Civil War maps and more recently as merely Sinking Creek, though in the county it's popularly referred to as Big Sinking. Four post offices served its watershed.

To serve the locality of Powells Mills, a short distance up the Dry Fork of Big Sinking, Thomas Powell established a post office he would call Big Sinking. Since neither name was acceptable to the Post Office Department (there was already a Powells Mills post office in Pike County) he opened his, on June 21, 1883, as Gregory. It was named for the brothers Frank and Cullom, sons of early area settlers Flemings and Harriet (Cullom) Gregory. When it closed on McKinley Alton's retirement in October 1966 the office was on Ky 776, just west of Ky 790, and 9.3 miles east of Monticello.

The Rev. Eli Correll (1857-1945) had a store and flour mill on the north bank of Big Sinking, some 2½ miles up from its Big South Fork confluence.<sup>14</sup> On December 3, 1890 he established here the Correll post office [kawr/ehl or kə/rehl] which several members of his family,

among others, ran till it closed in January 1935. For a number of years it also served the nearby Rocky Hill School and the Zion Baptist Church, 1¼ miles downstream. Little now marks the site.

One and a half miles above (south of) Gregory was James T. Bates' store. On November 30, 1891 he established here the Pueblo [pu/ehb/low, with variants pyeh/blow, pyu/ehb/loo, pyu/ehb/a/loh] post office. It's speculated that early settlers (perhaps John Dick or his son Sam) may have fancied the resemblance of the area's big cliffs and pilot rocks to the old adobe dwellings of several southwest Indian tribes. That and the nearby evidence of an old Indian campground. When the office closed in January 1986 it was on the west side of Ky 790, just yards south of the creek.

On June 27, 1906 J.W.H. ("Will") Hammond opened the Delta post office at or near the mouth of Turkey Hollow, six stream miles up Big Sinking, 4.2 miles northeast of Gregory (on the present Ky 790), and 13.7 miles ene of Monticello. The name honored his son Eddie's wife Delta (nee Casada) since, it's believed, Hammond's first proposed name Clara was too similar to Clare, an Allen County office. The office served the aptly named Cedar Hill neighborhood through 1991.

#### POST OFFICES ON CEDAR SINKING CREEK

The many cedar trees seen on its banks by early visitors gave its name to the other Sinking branch of the Big South Fork. Like the larger branch it derives the other half of its name from the frequent sinking and emergence into, and from, beds of sand and gravel in its course. It heads in an underground spring in a rock house at the foot of an unnamed hill, about 850 yards northeast of Meadow Creek Gap, and extends for nearly ten miles roughly northeast (its last mile and a half through Pulaski County) to the Big South Fork, 6½ stream miles south of Burnside.<sup>15</sup>

The first of its two post offices was the unrecalled Kyle [kah:l]. It was operated only between March 22, 1881 and May 24, 1883 by John Thomas Bolen who imprecisely located it in his Site Location Report on the south side of Cedar Sinking, six miles south of the Cumberland. Thus it may have been near the Pulaski County line and the forerunner of Kidder.

The Kidder post office was at four vicinal sites on or near (the present) Ky 790, 1¼ miles up Cedar Sinking from the Pulaski line. Established on March 14, 1891 by William Corder it served a five square mile rural neighborhood, and on December 30, 1964 became a rural branch of Bronston, six miles northeast, and closed for good in July 1974. According to local tradition, it was named for a town in Caldwell County, Missouri, some forty five miles nne of Kansas City to which a friend of Corder's had recently moved.<sup>16</sup> An alternative source was the famed Methodist theologian Daniel P. Kidder (ca. 1840s), but this is mere speculation.

#### TWO POST OFFICES ON THE TURKEY CREEK BRANCH OF THE BIG SDUTH FORK

Turkey Creek heads between the Moody and Denney Cliffs (named for the stream's pioneer settlers) and flows intermittently for about five miles ene to the Big South Fork one mile below its Little South Fork confluence and 4.2 miles above (south of) the Pulaski-McCreary-Wayne Counties convergence. It was named for the wild turkeys said to have been "so thick they hid the sun".<sup>17</sup>

The Denneys were descendants of Revolutionary War pensioner John Denney who had settled in the upper Turkey Creek area by 1800. In 1804 Charles Denney, probably John's brother, secured the first patent on the large area encompassing the first site of the later Denney post



office and several other features bearing that family's name. His nephew Matthew (1782-1875) was eventually to own over 6,000 acres in eastern Wayne County. On April 8, 1891 Dupuy Denney [du/peye], a descendant, established the post office on (the present) Ky 776, just below the head of the creek, and Reuben Denney, Matthew's grandson, opened the vicinity's first store. He and a number of other Denneys were to operate / <sup>the office</sup> till it closed at the end of 1975. In 1924 the office was moved one fourth of a mile east to a site on the creek, 2½ miles ese of Gregory, and 13½ miles east of Monticello.

A couple of miles or so below Denney, in the Lower Turkey Creek valley, were the several sites of the Brocade post office. This name was thought to have referred to a piece of embossed fabric but no one knows why it was given by storekeeper Mathew E. Denney<sup>18</sup> when he established the post office on November 17, 1899. It was to serve a locality he called Stocton (sic) in his Site Location Report, half a mile south of Turkey Creek, one fourth of a mile west of Lincoln Creek (another intermittent stream) and just north of Bench Cliff. In December 1913 Eulis Branscum had the office moved 500 yards west to the east bank of Lincoln, and in 1916 it was moved 1¼ miles north to the site of the Branscum store at the junction of the Brammer Hill Ridge and Jonesville Cemetery Roads, on what's now called the Brocade Ridge. The post office closed in mid April 1918.

#### POST OFFICES ON KENNEDY'S (CANADA'S) CREEK (OF THE LITTLE SOUTH FORK)

This stream heads in a small pond nearly a mile northwest of Coopersville and extends nearly six miles roughly southeast to the Little South Fork, half a mile above (southwest of) the (first site of) Kidds Crossing. And that's all we can be sure of. For 200 years

county historians have differed over how the name should be spelled and to whom it referred. By 1800 the county had two unrelated families who spelled their names Canada and Kennedy, but the pronunciation of each was very similar [kaen/ə/də, kaen/ə/deez]--hence the two spellings were used interchangeably for this stream on published and unpublished maps alike.<sup>19</sup> Though a petition was made to the Wayne County court on July 3, 1801 for a water-powered grist mill on Kenneda's Creek, and Munsell's 1818 state map spelled the stream's name Kennidy, local people and most of the county's historians believe that the stream was named for the pioneer Canada family and was early corrupted (and apparently still is) to Kennedy. Partial evidence is the Canada Creek Baptist Church, established in 1880, less than a mile northeast of Coopersville.

From May 25, 1875 till it closed on August 4, 1992 the Coopersville [koop/ərz/vihl] post office served the upper half of Kennedys (Canadas) Creek. With William H. Parker, its first postmaster, it was named for the large number of area descendants of Jacob Cooper (1807-1893) who, sometime after 1832, had settled on the ridge north of the creek. In 1877 Jacob's son John Reuben became postmaster and moved the office to his store. Over the years the post office, at several vicinity sites, served a community with several stores and other businesses. When it closed it was in the area's sole remaining store, Winfred Gregory's, on Ky 92 (at its junction with the Coopersville Ridge Road), nine miles southeast of Monticello.

The other post office in the Kennedys (Canadas) watershed was Rockybranch. This occupied at least two sites on (the present) Rte. 1756, just west of the Rocky Branch, an intermittent stream extending for some 3½ miles to Kennedys, just above the old Rocky Branch School.

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The stream, in turn, was named for the many limestone rocks lying about both in the stream and on the adjacent hillsides. The office was established on October 3, 1908 by Charlie E. Bell in his home 100 yards south of his daughter-in-law Lona's store to which it was moved in 1935. On her death in 1967 Charlie's son Ed Eli became postmaster.<sup>20</sup> The office was suspended on September 30, 1992.

#### TWO POST OFFICES ON MEADOW CREEK

This nine mile long intermittent stream heads in Sloane Hollow, 1½ miles northeast of Keith's Store on Spann Hill, and joins the Cumberland River one fourth of a mile above Mill Springs Park. It was visited in 1775 by Benjamin Price and Nathaniel Buckhannon, and by John McClure in 1783. In 1784 Abraham Price acquired a 400 acre military grant to an adjacent meadow which shortly came to be called Price's Meadow, and the stream was thus Meadow Creek [mehd/ə , mehd/ər].<sup>21</sup> Some seven miles from its head, just east of Ky 90, the creek goes into a cavern and extends underground for 1 1/3 miles. It then re-emerges and proceeds toward the river which it enters as the fourteen springs that collectively gave rise to the Mill Springs name. A canal was cut in as a part of the Meadow Creek Watershed Project to drain the marshy Price's Meadow.

The Betsey post office on the Meadow Creek Road (now Ky 1619), half a mile north of the creek and ten miles northeast of Monticello (via Ky 90 to Touristville) served the Meadow Creek community. The post office, established on November 21, 1907 with Willie T. "Bud" Correll, postmaster, is said to have been named for either Betsey Barnes (Mrs. Thomas Copenhaver) or Betsey Dodson (daughter of Thomas and Jemima Dodson) who married Matthew Denney of the Turkey Creek Denneys (above) in 1815. Both the post office and Wendell Hardwick's store closed in May 1982.

Heading just west of the Meadow Creek Gap, the intermittent Dodson Hollow extends for some 2¼ miles north to Meadow Creek, half a mile sse of Betsey. On September 13, 1922 (Earl) Parker Dodson established in his store a post office about half a mile below the Hollow's head to serve a thickly settled area earlier owned by his father Josiah.<sup>22</sup> According to Parker's wife Radie, she named the office. Wanting a unique name she selected Sendie after other possibilities were ruled out as already in use in Kentucky. But she couldn't recall why this name was chosen other than that it wasn't the name of any person.<sup>23</sup> Parker closed his store and the post office in September 1928.

#### NINE POST OFFICES IN THE CUMBERLAND RIVER'S BEAVER CREEK WATERSHED

Beaver Creek heads 1½ miles nnw of Mount Pisgah and extends roughly northwest to join Otter Creek half a mile above (east of) the Russell County line and nearly 3½ miles above Otter's confluence with the pre-impoundment Cumberland River. It was so identified on Elihu Barker's 1795 map and named for the profusion of beaver there in pioneer times.

The Beaver Valley's first post office was the aptly named Flat Springs established by Lewis Ferrell on March 17, 1891 on the east bank of the creek between Sulphur Spring and Furnace Mountains. By the mid 1890s it was serving Levi Ferrell's flour and saw mill and some other businesses. on April 26, 1899 Daniel W. Vickery, a blacksmith, had the office moved 1½ miles southwest (i.e. up the present Ky 200 and a mile west of the creek) to serve the area around the Bethesda Methodist Church, and it, accordingly, took the name Bethesda. The church was established in 1837 on land deeded by the William Gillespies at the site of the present Bethesda Cemetery, on

the east side of 200, one fourth of a mile southeast of its junction with Ky 858, the site of Vickery's store and post office at the north end of Shearers Valley and 4.3 miles southwest of Monticello). On March 31, 1957 the office closed, and in 1963 the church was moved to a new building 200 yards north of its first site.

Little recalled was the shortlived Vegaburgh [vee/ghə/bergh, vā/ghə/bergh] post office serving the Vega locality on the east side of Beaver, at the mouth of Criswell Hollow, on the present Ky 167, five miles northwest of Mount Pisgah, and ten miles south of Monticello. It was operated between July 7, 1884 and December 2, 1885 by George E. Ryan and his father-in-law Michael N. Huffaker. Ione Nolan, the Huffaker family historian, thought it might have been named for a town in Germany whence that family may have come.<sup>24</sup>

On September 22, 1884 Thomas Sumpter established the Sumpter post office (named for the family of George Sumpter, an early nineteenth century resident) at a site one fourth of a mile north of Beaver, at the later Hubert Hughes store, at the junction of Ky 167 and 125B, across from the Sandusky Chapel Baptist Church and six miles south of Monticello. In 1905 it was moved one fourth of a mile up the Sumpter Branch of Beaver where it closed at the end of 1913.

Fleeing his native Scotland for a new life in America James Craig McKechnie, a millwright and carpenter, brought his wife Annie (nee Rankin) and their family to the mouth of Elk Spring Creek (of Beaver). Here, with Job Kerns, he built a grain mill and soon (ca. early 1880s) founded a community he named Paisley for his home town seven miles west of Glasgow. On April 17, 1886 his son James, Jr. (ne 1851) established the Paisley [pās/lee, pāz/lee] post office to serve his family's mill and nearby Jock Rankin's mill on Beaver.

- 2 -

Sometime later the office was moved south to a site on Isbell Branch of Elk Spring Creek, half a mile east of Beaver and two miles southwest of Monticello, where, by 1909, it was serving a community also known as Needmore. When the office closed in March 1918 the community it served assumed the name of its school, Number One, which it still bears interchangeably with Ellers Chapel for a nearby Methodist church on Ky 167, just south of the southwest edge of Monticello. The school was on the west side of Ky 200, 200 yards west of the junction of Ky 167 (between Isbell Branch and Missouri Hollow). According to the county's early school numbering system, it was the first to be established in Wayne, sometime before 1840. It closed with consolidation in 1958 and its building was sold to the Jesus Name Church.

Sometime before the Civil War a Beaver Creek oxbow nearly five miles south of Monticello was settled as Pleasant Bend for the attractive view from that point. By the early 1890s the surrounding area was being drilled for oil and the locality at the neck was called Rhoda. At least that name was given by Fountain Fox Cooper (1870-1955) in his Site Location Report for the post office established on May 2, 1892 on (the present) Ky 167, just north of the neck. But as Rhoda was then an Edmonson County post office, it was named Cooper [koop/or] by the Miller Brothers, in whose store it would be located, for their nephews Fount and Clem. For much of the twentieth century the post office served several stores. When it closed on December 31, 1975 it was in last postmaster Estil Fairchild's grocery.

To accommodate the influx of oil drillers and their families for the so-called "Cooper Pool" boom, the Oilton post office was established on July 22, 1903 by Robert Edward Vickery. It was<sup>at</sup> the mouth of Beaver Creek's Cooper Hollow (between Bertram and Sulphur Springs

Mountains), one mile below (wnw of) Cooper. In 1907 storekeeper William Charles Horton may have moved it less than one mile down the creek where it closed in mid August 1910. Residents of both sides don't identify with Oilton now but say they live at Cooper where, till recently, they got their mail.

On the ridge<sup>25</sup> between Beaver and Otter Creeks were the several sites of the Cabell [kaeb/əl] post office. It was established by Charles A. Shelton on April 14, 1888 just off (the present) Rte. 1546, at or near the site of the Wild Kitchen School, less than a mile south of the Lake Cumberland Boys Camp and a mile north of the Cabell Grove Methodist Church. In 1937 the office was moved to a site just south of the church, and a little later it was moved again, a short distance up the road. In 1948 Christopher Columbus Rhoades moved it three fourths of a mile to his store 0.4 miles west of Stockton Road and just south of the head of Beaver's Shelton Branch, where it closed in 1954.

Whence the Cabell name has long been a mystery. None of the county's historians know of any possible source. In the absence of any such area families they assume it was imported. One suggestion is that it honored the Confederate General William Lewis Cabell (1827-1911), a Danville, Virginia native and West Point graduate, who, after the war, practiced law in Dallas, Texas and served as that city's mayor from 1874 to 1882.

On April 10, 1901 William A. Cooper, Jr. established the Gar post office, named for a species of fish found in the Cumberland waters. The office was first located in the vicinity of Vaughn's water-powered mill on Beaver Creek, half a mile above its Otter confluence, and four miles south of the river. It was later moved by Preston B. ("Pet") Cooper a short distance east to his home

where he maintained it through August 1925. Its sites are now in the Beaver embayment.

#### POST OFFICES IN THE ELK SPRING VALLEY (OF BEAVER CREEK)

There's long been a lack of agreement on the eastern limits of this valley. Some place it at the spring at the mouth of Burnett Hollow, only six miles southeast of its Beaver Creek confluence (at Monticello's southwest corner); others extend it two miles east to the mouth of Burfield Hollow (at Barrier). In any event, no stream courses through most of it; it's characterized by a number of springs including those at the site of Monticello which influenced that town's initial settlement and founding. The valley is said to have been named by its earliest settlers, perhaps by James Ingram (1761-1854), for the many springs to which elk would come to drink. One spring in particular, considered by some to be the valley's source, was just west of Ingram's old home, half a mile south of Ky 92 (the road extending through most of the valley to Monticello where the valley is joined by the Elk Spring Creek for its passage to the Beaver confluence.)

Barrier, a hamlet with a couple of stores and a number of homes, centers at the junction of 92 and 1479, at the mouth of Burfield Hollow, seven miles southeast of Monticello. It was served from June 25, 1902 to 1974 by the Barrier post office and was named for the area descendants of the Rev. Richard Barrier (1768-1854), a South Carolinian who lived and preached in the nearby Concord neighborhood. Its first postmaster Ephraim Miller was succeeded in turn by several Barriers and the post office occupied at least three vicinity sites, the most recent in one of the local stores.



For two miles the Burfield Hollow *per se* extends roughly from the Burfield post office to a point just below (northeast of) the Big Spring Church where its stream disappears. It re-emerges at a point some three fourths of a mile south of 92 and disappears again just short of that road at the last Barrier post office site. Extending up the hollow to the Burfield post office is the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  mile long paved Rte. 1479. Beyond that point the road extends as the Blue Hole Hollow Road along another intermittent stream past the Blue Hole, two miles above the post office. This is a three-fourths of an acre sink hole with no visible inlet, and so deep its bottom can't be fathomed. The Burfield Hollow was probably named for a field of cockleburrs by an everlasting spring near the Big Spring School. The Burfield post office was established here on August 11, 1904 with Abijah Burnett, postmaster. The vicinity may then have been called Hunter, the first name proposed for the post office. After several short moves the office closed in mid February 1955, half a mile south of its original site and just west of the head of Johnson Fork of Kennedys Creek.

After the discovery of oil in Elk Spring Valley around 1900 a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mile section of the valley came to be known as Oil Valley. Even though oil production is a thing of the past the two names still interchangeably identify that section, Oil Valley officially and Elk Spring Valley locally. The Oil Valley post office was established on May 24, 1904 by storekeeper Stephen C. Dobbs at a site acquired from Perry Ingram of the family that had settled there before 1800. This was at the southwest corner of the junction of (the present) Ky 92 and the Burnett Hollow Road (just across 92 from the Oil Valley Church of Christ, two miles west of Barrier, and five miles southeast of Monticello.)<sup>26</sup> Probably in January 1910, when Elmer Denney became postmaster, the office was moved across what became Ky 92 to the site

of the current Dobbs' Store just above the church (built in 1912).

The post office closed on May 31, 1914.

The shortlived Shoemaker post office (February 9, 1911 through February 1912) was operated by and named for Isaac Preston Shoemaker (1866-1961), the local storekeeper on (the present) 1258, at the western edge of the valley, 2½ miles north of Sumpter and 1.3 miles from Ky 92.

#### POST OFFICES ON OTTER CREEK AND ITS BRANCHES

This major Wayne County stream heads about half a mile southwest of the Sandy Valley Church, 2½ miles south of Slickford. It meets Beaver Creek half a mile from the Russell County line, and then joins the pre-impoundment Cumberland River 1.8 miles within Russell. It was identified as such on Elihu Barker's 1795 Kentucky map and was probably named for the animals found there in pioneer days.<sup>27</sup> Thirteen post offices served its watershed.

The first Otter Creek post office was Berry, established on February 10, 1830 by George Berry. It's believed to have been just west of the creek, probably on the Zula Hill, at or near the site of the later Wait post office. In February 1834 Berry had its name changed to Newberry by which name it was listed in Collins' 1874 history as a village, though it had lost its post office in July 1863.

The Wait post office was established on January 25, 1898 by James J. Lorton who had a store in the vicinity of the Wait School on the south side of the old Albany Road, half a mile north of the current Ky 90, and one fourth of a mile west of Otter Creek. This is believed to have been the first site of the post office though for some reason Lorton declined to assume the postmastership and, on April 7, it was

filled by Hiram H. Guffey.<sup>28</sup> In 1905 William A. Dabney had the office moved 650 yards south to a site one mile west of the creek to serve a thickly settled area on the direct route between Monticello and Albany (Clinton County's seat and leading town). No one knows Wait's name source though it obviously inspired some local humor especially with its proximity to Stop (see below).

But the Wait name is now virtually a memory. The post office closed in December 1913, and though the local school continued as Wait till 1964, the neighborhood both served has been known since World War Two as Happy Top. This name is also underived though it too has inspired humorous accounts.<sup>29</sup>

In 1882, or shortly thereafter, Thomas Jones of Clinton County built a grist and flour mill at the end of an Otter Creek bend near the old Ky 90 Bridge. For some years it was run by his son Washington R. (called "Ramey") at whose nearby store, called simply Ramey, was established the Zula post office on November 16, 1901. Ramey, its first postmaster, is said to have named it for Zula Frost, the ten year old daughter of neighbors Grant and Julianne Frost.<sup>30</sup> The mill closed in 1948 when the Federal Government acquired the lower Otter Creek for its new Lake Cumberland backfill. George M. Duncan then had the store and post office moved half a mile up old 90 to a site south and west of the creek (and 10.3 miles wsw of Monticello.) Here it served two stores, the Highway Holiness Church, and a number of homes till it closed in December 1975 with its papers sent to the Alpha post office, then in Clinton County, 2½ miles west.<sup>31</sup>

Alpha was less than half a mile within Clinton County, 0.2 miles south of new 90. It was established on January 28, 1852 and named by its first postmaster John M. Davis for his wife Alpha Caroline Brooks

(1822-1890). After an intermittent operation the office was moved in December 1975 by its then postmaster Mrs. Thelma Ragan from the late Marion Perdue's grocery to a point in Wayne County midway between its Clinton County site and Zula to replace the latter when it closed. It retains the Alpha name and is now one of Wayne's two extant post offices, on the Old 90 Loop, one fourth of a mile from the Clinton line.

Sometime in the early nineteenth century Revolutionary War veteran Jesse Powers (ne 1759) may have settled in the upper Otter Creek valley. His son Charley certainly did. Charley's son Daniel L. (1818-1899) had a store just west of Carpenters Fork and half a mile south of its Otter confluence where he established the powersburg [paerz/bergh, paer/əs/bergh, pahrz/bergh] post office on August 4, 1876. In 1889 he was succeeded by his son Millard Fillmore ("Doc") Powers, a licensed pharmacist, who ran the office till 1914. In 1894 the terminal "h" was dropped by the Post Office Department, and as Powersburg the office occupied several vicinity sites till March 1972. Its last site, to which it was moved in the fall of 1956, when Eva Hurt became postmaster, was the Hurts Brothers Grocery, one fourth of a mile south of the Powers Store, on Ky 200, 12 3/4 miles southwest of Monticello.

#### TWO MORE CARPENTERS FORK POST OFFICES

This 5.3 mile long intermittent stream heads just above (southwest of) the Blowing Cave, midway between Sunnybrook and Sandclift. It was so identified at least by 1815-16 and named for William Carpenter (ne 1759), a Virginia-born Revolutionary War veteran, who is said to have settled on it around 1800.

At the mouth of Carpenter Fork's Bertram Hollow, four miles above (south of) Powersburg and one mile north of the Blowing Cave, was Carter D. "Dee" Dalton's store. Here Dalton established a post office on July 21, 1887 he would name for his daughter Dora (Dory was then in use in Clay County). Instead he called it Sunnybrook for the perceived sunshine on the stream's waters. In 1914 "Dee" was succeeded by Dora's husband Omaer D. Bertram, a descendant of William Bertram (ne North Carolina in 1748), the area's first settler and the hollow's name source. For years, till it closed in September 1983, the office was in the Bertram store on (the present) Ky 200, 15¼ miles ssw of Monticello. From March 31, 1952 till it closed the office was maintained by Omar and Dora's daughter Flora Bertram while the store was operated by her brother Robert till his death in January 1983.<sup>32</sup>

On Ky 200, a little over a mile south of Powersburg (and 100 yards south of the mouth of Tuggle Hollow) was storekeeper Wesley Denney's shortlived (June 24, 1904 through August 1907) Lonerock post office. It rerferred to ~~the large~~ sandstone boulder, 1620 feet high, at the southwest end of Ben's Cliff, three fourths of a mile northeast.<sup>33</sup>

#### BACK TO OTTER CREEK

On June 23, 1892 Carter T. Denney established the Slickford post office at the mouth of Hog Hollow, two miles up Otter from its Carpenters confluence. The large flat rocks in the creek there were so slick that horses and pedestrians alike would slip on them as they forded the creek. Soon the office was serving a couple of stores, Brown's saw and flour mill, some oil drillings, and other businesses. Around 1896 Denney moved the office 0.6 miles up the creek, to the mouth of Dry Hollow (about fifteen miles ssw of Monticello) where it served Thomas Powers and the Kennedy's store. Ewing Kennedy and Osby Davis were its next postmasters. In July 1932 Dsby's widow Ina (later



Mrs. Stearns) took over the post office and store, running the former till it closed in 1956 and maintaining the store for at least another twenty years. The original Slickford post office was in the vicinity of the local school and the Slickford Pump Station, now gone, which for years has been known as Old Slickford.

John H. Dalton, a local storekeeper serving an area east of Otter Creek and just north of its Harmon Hollow, sought a unique name for his new post office. Consulting his dictionary he came across the word Hidalgo [heye/dael/ghoh], meaning a Spanish nobleman, and opened this post office on January 24, 1895. From 1929 till it closed in July 1975 the office was in Allen B. Shearer's store on (the present) Ky 200, 0.2 miles southwest of its junction with Ky 834, 0.3 miles east of Otter Creek, 2.4 miles north of Powersburg, and 10.4 miles southwest of Monticello. Shearer's wife LaDona was its last regular postmaster from August 10, 1929 till her retirement in November 1974.

Gap Creek, one of Otter's main branches, had its own post office, in this name. This intermittent stream heads in a pond on Clinton County's Poplar Mountain, two miles northeast of Savage and extends seven miles roughly northeast to Otter, just north of the Zula post office. It was so-called for somewhere near its source it flows through a Poplar Mountain gap. On May 9, 1879 John H. Shearer established the Gap Creek (which became Gapcreek in 1893.) By the turn of the century it was serving one or more stores, a flour mill, tannery, livestock, and other businesses on the creek, about half a mile from the Clinton County line. Several postmasters later, in late December 1913, another storekeeper William R. Kelsay assumed charge of the office and moved it to his store on (the present) Ky 696 (that parallels the creek), just above the mouth of Tanyard Hollow. On his retirement in November 1952 he was succeeded by his wife Alice who herself retired in November 1967 when the post office closed.

Then there was the aptly named but virtually unrecalled Elmwood post office maintained from November 2, 1889 through April 1896 by John S. Vaughn at an uncertain site. It was either on the west side of Beaver Creek, three miles up from the river, or on the west bank of Otter, just south of the Russell County line and 1½ miles ene of the Wayne-Clinton-Russell Counties convergence. In either case the site is probably now under water. According to Vaughn's Site Location Report his first proposed name for the office was Cora.

The equally unrecalled and inexplicably named Dryden post office may have occupied three sites in (the present) Otter Creek embayment, in the vicinity of the mouth of Bell Branch, one mile southeast of the convergence. It was maintained, in turn, by Samuel H. Anderson, Elihue Graham, and Nona A. Bell from April 14, 1888 through June 1916.

#### POST OFFICES ON OLD AND NEW KY 90

The 136 mile long (new) Ky 90 extends between US 25W in Whitley County (eleven miles southwest of Corbin) and I-65 at Cave City in Barren County. Nine Wayne County post offices served both its new and old routes. The old 90 route, at least between the Cumberland River and Monticello, followed an old Indian and wagon trail through the aptly named, 1½ mile long, Gap of the Ridge.

Just south of the Gap on the old road was the Oak Forest post office established on July 16, 1842 by the Rev. Stephen Scott. On December 19, 1851 Charles H. Buster moved the office about a mile southwest to serve a community settled before 1800 by Revolutionary War veterans and named for Baron friedrich von Steuben (1730-1794), the Prussian trainer of George Washington's troops. The post office name was then changed to Steubenville. It closed on February 13, 1854 but was re-established on May 29, 1871 by Joseph A. Bohon. The

community may then have been called Pleasant Grove for the local church till 1894 when the church became Steubenville Baptist. Some time in the 1890s the post office was moved to its third site in the Richardson Grocery across old 90 from the church just south of (the present) 90/1808 junction, 300 yards east of new 90, and 4½ miles northeast of Monticello, where it was suspended in October 1992.

Somewhere on old 90 (following the old route between Monticello and Somerset), one mile north of Meadow Creek and nearly ten miles northeast of Monticello, Stephen A. Weaver established the Weaverton post office on December 3, 1859. It operated intermittently in at least two locations until it closed in mid January 1887. Sometime before it closed it's said to have been moved nearly 1½ miles southwest to what has been called "The Red Brick Building" at what was later called "The Crossroads".<sup>34</sup>

It was not, however, till July 20, 1929 that another post office was established to serve this area. John R. Wright, a builder and cabinet maker, opened a post office on old 90, half a mile northeast of the Crossroads, just below the junction of 90 and Carr Road. Three names were submitted by his son Alfred: Wrightsville, Green Valley (his preference), and Touristville, and the third was selected. In retrospect, that name was aptly applied for it was Wright's intention to capitalize on the developing tourist trade in nearby Mill Springs (1½ miles northwest, up the pre rerouted old 90). On January 15, 1939 then postmaster Luid Estil Brown moved the office to his store in the Red Brick Building (8½ miles northeast of Monticello). In 1956 Grace (Mrs. Orville) Poore moved it 0.4 miles back up old 90 to another store where it closed in 1983.



Some three to four miles northeast (up new 90) from the Crossroads were the several sites of the Frazer post office. It was established by storekeeper Samuel H. Frazer on February 10, 1880 near the site of the New Salem Baptist Church, just north of the road. Though the first proposed name was Otis, the office was named for James K. Polk Frazer (ne July 22, 1948), a resident who practiced law in Monticello (twelve miles southwest) and had just been appointed Wayne County Attorney. The office closed in May 1883 but was re-opened the following April by another storekeeper Joseph L. Shadoan and moved to his Dry Springs store a few hundred yards south. By 1912 it may have been moved again to a site by the old Frazer School (marked Frazer on the 1920s and early 30s maps). In 1935 Mrs. Ninie Cowan had it moved to what, for some years, had been known as North Frazer where it remained, as Frazer, till its suspension in October 1992. The distinction between Frazer and North Frazer has since disappeared and the whole one mile long stretch from the Tuttles Chapel Methodist Church northeast to the several stores on old and new 90, at the junction of 90 and Rte. 1568, is now simply Frazer.<sup>35</sup>

For some four miles a stretch of Ky 90 southwest of Monticello extends through what's long been called Halls Valley. For much of the nineteenth century this valley was owned by its first resident Hiram T. Hall (1811-1878) whose spacious mansion was north of 90, in the vicinity of the now extinct Hall Valley School.

The first of several post offices to serve the valley between Susie and Beaver Creek may have been North Hill. Unknown to county historians it's believed to have been operated by John McBeath from February 7, 1854 through July 1863 somewhere in the Slat area.

A second post office was established by storekeeper Joshua Berry on July 14, 1864 as Berryville. Joshua (ne 1834) was the son of George B.

Berry who had the old Berry-Newberry post office on Beaver Creek (see above).<sup>36</sup> From February 1866 through November 1877 Hiram Hall was postmaster. On April 21, 1879 then postmaster Samuel L. Brammer had it re-named North Hill and may have moved it 2¼ miles southwest to a point one mile north of Otter Creek. But it closed in mid November.

After Hiram's death in 1878 his heirs sold the family store to the Rev. Will Alex Hopkins, a Baptist preacher, who, on May 17, 1882, re-opened the local post office as Alex. In 1887 Hopkins sold out to Abraham B(uck) Owens and moved to Missouri. Owens maintained the office till 1902 and then Thomas M. Shearer operated it through August 1915. The post office-store was on (the present) Ky 858 (the so-called Bethesda-Hall Valley Road), half a mile east of Ky 90 and about six miles southwest of Monticello.

The Susie post office was established, probably by storekeeper Wilhite I. Denney, to serve the Mullentown Neighborhood centering on a school and church of that name on (the present) Ky 834, a little over a mile north of 90. The Mullentown name may go back to the 1840s when it was applied to the school and probably refers to the plants growing wild in area fields. The office opened on January 12, 1892 with Theodore H. Denney, postmaster. From July 1906 till he retired in April 1944 the post office was maintained by Abington Armstrong ("Strongie") Lloyd who was succeeded by its third and last postmaster Eva M. Cross. Whence Susie is not known. it's believed by some to have been named for one of Hiram Hall's two daughters, Susan Rachel (1863-1952) who married a Stone. Or it could have been named for Strongie's wife Nannie S. (nee Rankin). In any event it was moved in 1914 to a site on (the present) 90, just west of its 834 junction and east of the Old Glory School and Church where, several vicinity moves later, it closed in November 1954. Since the move, the Mullentown vicinity has been referred to as Old Susie.

Another little recalled post office was Danohue. at least this was its Post Office Department spelling though, in retrospect, its preferred pronunciation has been dahn/a/hoh or, sometimes, dahn/a/hyu suggesting the preferred local spelling Donahoe or Donahue. Anyhow, it no longer has any relevance to area residents. And its name derivation is not known. We're not even sure where it was. Its only postmaster Barton C. Huffaker first lived at the head of Otter Creek's Simpson Branch. Thus, when it was established on April 19, 1911, it would serve a rural neighborhood a mile or so south of what would become Highway 90. In December 1914, according to his Site Location Report, Huffaker moved the office three air miles north to a site 1½ miles northwest of Bethesda, four miles east of Murl, and five miles south of Monticello. Several early twentieth century maps show it at the junction of 90 and 834 where we know Susie had been moved to in 1914. After Danohue closed in mid March 1918 Huffaker moved to Betsy where he became its postmaster in December 1927.

The many paling (or picket) fences along the road, in the northwestern end of Halls Valley, gave the name to the post office of Slat when it was established on February 26, 1907 by storekeeper Leander (Lee) Brake. Till it closed in mid December 1913 it was at the junction of 90 and (the present) Rte. 1546, just southwest of the (later) New Charity Church. On October 1, 1929 Mrs. Lurtie Brammer had the office re-opened 0.7 miles up 90, a site about four miles southwest of Monticello, and here it closed for good on November 26, 1954 (the same day as Susie, 3½ miles southwest.)

### THREE POST OFFICES ON KY 92

Kentucky 92 extends through several counties from a point on US 27, about one mile south of Whitley City, to Ky 55, 3½ miles south of Columbia. It meets Ky 90 at the square in Monticello. Three Wayne County post offices were on its route.

The little recalled Coffey's Spring was operated by John W. Cook from September 29, 1879 through January 1884 on a road that may have become 92, at a site just short of the Russell County line and 5½ miles northwest of Parnell. It was named for a good drinking water source just yards from the road on land owned by one of the county's several Coffey families. Isaac Frealy's Clyde post office (see Russell County) would later serve this vicinity.

The Parnell post office, named for Riley Parnell or his local family, occupied two stores at a single site on (the present) Ky 92, 0.4 miles east of its junction with (the present) Ky 674. It was established on May 12, 1881 with Henry F. Lee, its first postmaster, to serve a small village around Kelsay's Mills, the first name proposed for it. Though the office closed on September 30, 1959, Parnell is still applied to the community centered at the junction (about seven miles northeast of Monticello), with two stores (opened since 1959) and three churches cetering to visitors at the nearby Beaver Lodge and Boat Dock.<sup>37</sup>

Two miles east of the Parnell post office site was John Henderson Twyford's Swifton post office. According to his family's tradition, Civil War veteran William Twyford returned to Wayne County from a Union prison camp near Chicago, married the wife of a deceased relative and later, with his brother John, opened a store several miles south of Eadsville and the Cumberland River. After two years William sold his share to John who, on June 25, 1902, established the post office said to have been named for the Arkansas home town of one of William's army or prison buddies. The post office and store closed in mid May 1911, but John later reopened the store, running it till the late 1920s. There's nothing at the site now and area residents don't even know the Swifton name.<sup>38</sup>

POST OFFICES ON OR JUST OFF KY200

In addition to Paisley, Bethesda, Hidalgo, Powersburg, and Sunnybrook, already discussed, two other post offices served residents of this eighteen mile long highway between Ky 167 (1½ miles southwest of Monticello) and the Tennessee line, one mile south of Sandclift.

For about five miles the road extends through the non-stream drained Shearer Valley from Taylor Mountain to Halls Valley, north of Bethesda, and between Taylor Ridge and Koontz Mountain (west) and Criswell and Pilot Mountains (east). This valley was first settled around 1812 by William Christian Shearer, Jr. (1760-184?) and his family from Ashe County, North Carolina. One of his seventeen children Daniel (1791-1865) was later to own the entire valley.<sup>39</sup> On August 4, 1876 Daniel's daughter Cassandra Huffaker established the Shearer Valley [sheer, shee/ar, shehr/a, shehr/ar] post office in her father's home on the road that became 200, about 500 yards south of the Shearer Valley Church of Christ, six miles southwest of Monticello. The post office closed on May 31, 1908, but another Shearer Valley post office operated between June 19, 1937 and March 11, 1955 in a store a little over a mile south (2 3/4 mile north of Hidalgo). Chester W. Upchurch was the second Shearer Valley's first postmaster. Though the offices are no more, the valley and neighborhood are still populated and centered at the extant church.

Serving the aptly named Chestnut Grove Neighborhood, now centered at the C.R. Bertram store on 200, was the Sandclift post office.<sup>40</sup> The post office, however, was 1½ miles south of the store and the Chestnut Grove Church sites, in a small grocery by the John Lester home, at the end of a dirt road half a mile east of 200 and half a mile north of Bald Rock. It was named for the large sandstone cliff just south of Lester's where, by the 1970s, construction rock was still being quarried. With John and his son Willie its only postmasters the office operated between December



21, 1921 and mid October 1953. The Sandclift name was applied only to the post office. Then, as now, the neighborhood has been Chestnut Grove.

POST OFFICES ON THE CABELL ROAD (KY 1546)

The 8½ mile long Rte. 1546 extends between Ky 90 (just south of the New Charity Church) and the Lake Cumberland Boys Camp, through Cabell (see above). It's sometimes called the Murl Road for one of its three post offices.

The first of these offices was established on April 27, 1900 as Haas. It was named by "Strongie" Lloyd, its postmaster, allegedly for a local family of whom nothing is known.<sup>41</sup> The office was probably in his store at the junction of 1546 and Stockton Road, less than half a mile south-east of Rhoades' store at Cabell. On July 24, 1903 Lloyd had its name changed to the unexplained Camden and as such it operated to mid June 1906. A month later Lloyd took over the office at Susie. On April 27 Charles A. Shelton re-established the Camden office and ran it till it closed for good at the end of 1908.

The Murl post office, from August 23, 1903 to late November 1954, served a neighborhood between Beaver and Otter Creeks long known as Rectors Flat for the descendants of its first settler Samuel Rector (1780-1862). The office was established by John Granville Tabor, Jr. in the store he co-owned and operated with Wayne Rector just north of the Rectors Flat Baptist Church, 2½ road miles wnw of the 1546/90 junction and nine miles west of Monticello. Though the post office name remains undetermined several explanations have been offered: Amy Rector's son, Tabor's wife, or a list of names provided by outsiders, including the Post Office Department.

Ramsey Island for much of the twentieth century was the name applied to the area within the confines of a six mile long loop made by Rte. 1546.

This area and much of the land outside the confines has been owned since before the Civil War by related families of Ramseys, descendants of Revolutionary War veteran Thomas, Jr. and his son John.<sup>42</sup>

The Stop post office, at several sites at the south central edge of "the Island", just west of the junction of (the present) 843 and 1546, and two miles west of Murl, was established on December 17, 1910 by storekeeper John F. Upchurch. Its name source is also unknown but many suggestions have been offered. Some say it was the end of the local mail route, or the road stopped there, or it may have been a stage stop for changing horses. According to one recently published account, some visitors asked by Mr. Upchurch for help in naming the office couldn't decide and were about to leave when he called them to "stop! Let's talk about this some more." And thus it was named.<sup>43</sup> The office closed in December 1933. And the local Franklin store ceased operation in 1973. The Mount Union Church is long gone and only the Stop Church of Christ (established in 1912) survives.

#### OTHER WAYNE COUNTY POST OFFICES

Shortly after the turn of the twentieth century oil was discovered on a section of Elk Ridge, some five to six miles northeast of Monticello. This section, now called Spann Hill, had been settled, perhaps by 1812, by Elisha Kidd. Around 1840 Harvey Sloan had begun mining coal there which continued to produce till the early 1930s. In 1870 Benjamin Spann (1836-1884) arrived and he and his family further developed the area's coal resources. But a community as such wasn't established there till the early 1900s when the Emery Oil Company of Pennsylvania began its drilling. Within a few years a number of families had moved in there to work the oil fields, the coal mines, and several commercial timber operations. But by the 1930s everything was "worked out" and people began moving away just as quickly as they had arrived.

The local post office was established on May 19, 1905. According to its first postmaster Andrew J. New's Site Location Report, he applied for the post office to be called Spann for George W. Spann's local store but offered as alternatives Bradford, Emery, and Boston if his first preference was unacceptable. (Since these were already in use in Kentucky, he had no difficulty with Spann). In February 1906 storekeeper George W. Spann, Benjamin's grandson (through Hartwell Spann, the area's chief coal marketer) took over the office and was the first of several Spanns to operate it. By 1917, when John T. Spann became postmaster, the community it served was locally referred to as Spann Hill. With the office's closing in May 1955 the vicinity (with its dozen or so families) on Rte. 1275, by the Spann Hill Baptist Church (formerly the Central Union Church), has been served by Obie Keith's grocery, 0.4 miles west of the old post office site.

From December 20, 1921 through May 1950 Cicero Horton maintained the Frisby post office in his home on a dirt road between (the present) Frisby and Whiteway Inn Roads, 1½ miles south of Ky 92, and five miles west of Monticello. His first name preference Horton was then applied to an Ohio County post office. The Wayne office was then given the name of the prominent county family of Jonathan Smith Frisbie (the correct spelling of their name), a Connecticut-born and Yale-educated physician and preacher (1791-1863), who arrived in Monticello in 1819.

By 1918 a section of the larger Gap Creek community, with its post office (see above) 1½ miles west, had come to be called Windy City. County historians are not sure why. Some think the name refers to the local Wynn family; others to its windy location, or to a damaging wind storm that may have swept through the area around the turn of the twentieth century. Least likely is the story that the place was named for some local fellows called "The Windy Bunch" who'd gather at Osias



Bertram's store on (the present) Rte. 1009, 13½ miles southwest of Monticello, to swap tales. The discovery in 1918 of a fairly profitable oil deposit in the area north and east of the store led to the community's brief prosperity as an oil producer. To serve the increased population attracted to the oil boom William Vasco Denney established the Windy post office on September 17, 1924 at the site of Bertram's store.<sup>44</sup>

Like most of the region's oil boom this didn't last long. After several years the deposits had become too shallow to continue long term exploitation (though several wells were still being drilled in the early 1970s). For a brief time in the late 1930s the post office was in the Ballenger store, half a mile west of Bertram's. It then returned to its original site, but in 1970 Eugenia (Mrs. James P.) Wynn, who had then acquired it, moved it 500 feet east (on the old Windy-Hidalgo Road) where it was suspended on September 25, 1992.

The Hardwick [hahrd/wihk, sometimes hahrd/ak] post office on Rte. 1568 (the Strawberry Road), three mile south of Ky 90 at Frazer, was operated by George H. Hardwick from April 2, 1929 through January 1935. It was at the north end of the 1¼ mile Turpin Hollow, an all but dry feature owned, occupied, and named for Leonard (1859-1941) and Rhoda Turpin. According to George's Site Location Report, his first proposed name Emma (in use in Floyd County) was replaced by his family's name. He was one of the fifteen children of George Washington ("Wash") Hardwick (1855-1933), a son of John Quincy Adams and Mary Hardwick. The hollow and post office are now considered a part of the Strawberry Neighborhood.

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Only two of Wayne's seventy eight post offices--Monticello and Alpha--are still in operation. Another, Kerr, was authorized on April 10, 1903 but postmaster-designate Thomas W. Bryant's order was rescinded in June. Since Bryant lived on Shiloh Hill, near the Dry Fork of Big Sinking, west of Gregory, it's likely that the office would have been in that vicinity.

The Monticello post office serves the county's only incorporated place. Sixteen discontinued offices were the center of one time villages while most of the others served at least a country store, along with one or more churches and a one room school.

Thirty three post offices were named for local or area persons or their families while three were named for non local persons. Ten bore descriptive, geographic, or locational names. Distant places gave their names to four offices while nine others had names derived from nearby features (three streams, two churches, a rock, a spring, a cliff, and an unwatered valley). Three were named for local economic activities (oil drilling and tourism). Three had two or more possible name sources (a distant place and a Methodist theologian; the end of a mail route and a stage stop; and the local climate and a local family.) One was named for a type of cloth while another was taken from a word in the postmaster's dictionary. Eleven names have not been derived and three offices have not been precisely located.

The names of twenty three offices were not those first proposed for them, while thirty one served communities, neighborhoods, landings, and localities with other names, and nine had name changes.

# FOOTNOTES

1. Preston C. McGrain and James C. Currens, Topography of Kentucky, Kentucky Geological Survey, Series X, 1978, P. 74
2. These springs emanate from an underground confinement of the creek as it pursues its course down a hill toward the river.
3. John Hammond, who lived on the south end of the Cumberland Ridge, just north of Fall Creek, is said to have been the first owner of all the bottom land and much of the upland on both sides of the river, between Fall Creek and White Oak Creek. His property was later subdivided and sold to others.
4. According to a local but unsubstantiated tradition, Robertsport was not named for Squire or his son Granville C. but for an earlier Robwrts who, in 1805, had opened a warehouse at a site in the Bottom that already bore this name.
5. The Gann brothers first proposed the name Gannsville for their post office.
6. Falls Creek heads at the foot of Spann Hill, extends two miles roughly northwest, goes underground and re-emerges at least three times, the last to make a rapid descent into (now) Lake Cumberland with a series of cascades just above the mill site.
7. Thomas' first proposed name was Rankinville though his office operated simply as Rankin.
8. Today, the Gose office site is 1½ miles up Ky 761 from the Cumberland Point Recreational Area.
9. Hatfield was one of several names proposed for the Ferris post office.
10. Wayne County residents of the Union and Ard Ridges and the Pan-handle area between them have long been cut off by the river, and

now the lake, from the rest of their county, requiring a 100 mile roundtrip drive to Monticello (through Pulaski County). With the closing of their own post offices, they've had to get their mail from the Jabez or Nancy post offices and do their trading and schooling in Russell or Pulaski Counties. Though Somerset is only a twenty to thirty minute drive, several attempts to join Pulaski County have been disallowed by the Wayne County Fiscal Court.

11. Actually, New's first proposed name was Don. After his retirement on July 31, 1943, his second wife Etna continued the office for six months. By the late 1940s Flossie (as Mrs. Dewey New) was living in Eubank.
12. The mill was built in 1836 by North Carolina-born Benjamin Adkins and was maintained after his death by other family members till, in 1881, it was acquired by Joseph Hurt. From 1916 till it ceased operation in 1962 it was operated by Matthew Hurt. It "collapsed" from neglect in August 1994.
13. The 2½ mile long Steele Hollow which heads two miles within McCreary County was named for its owners, descendants of John (1826-1892) and Jane Steele.
14. Eli, called "Preacher Eli" may have been the grandson of James (1797-1867) and Elizabeth Correll who came to Wayne County from Germany in the 1830s or 40s.
15. Though officially identified as Cedar Sinking Creek as early as Munsell's 1818 Kentucky map, and still locally referred to as that, the stream has also been known as Little Sinking Creek and, at least in the 1920s, as Little Cedar Sinking Creek.
16. The Missouri town had been laid out in 1860 for the Kidder Land Company of Boston, whose founder, Henry P. Kidder, the Boston financier, was to co-found, in 1865, the famed banking house of Kidder-Peabody.

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17. A pair of current Denneys, interviewed by the author on August 11, 1975
  18. Obviously not the pioneer Matthew Denney, but the son of Tom Denney, the site's first owner.
  19. Among the numerous spelling variations of this stream's name were Canada, Canadas, Canadys, Canadis, Cannadas, Canida, Canidas, Kennedy, Kenned's, Kennedy's, Kennida's, Kenedys.
  20. Bell's first proposed name for the Rockybranch post office was Alcorn for the family descended from the pioneer brothers James and John, Revolutionary War veterans. A descendant John Alcorn had a flour mill in the Concord area, west of the Little South Fork and north of Kennedys, from around 1900 through the Second World War.
  21. In the Wayne County Court Minutes of September 22, 1801 the stream was identified as Meadow's Mill Creek, probably giving rise to its frequent nineteenth century identification as Mill Creek.
  22. The Hollow, along with Rolly Creek, the Big Sinking branch to the south, were named for Rolly Dodson.
  23. According to the author's interview with Radie Dodson in Monticello on November 2, 1974
  24. Ione Adamson Nolan, The Huffaker Family, 1966, Pp. 207-08. But Vega, meaning meadow in Spanish, is the name of several places in the American southwest, and a South Dakota town of this name derived it from the star.
  25. Cabell Ridge extends about three miles from the junction of Rte. 1546 and the Stockton Road northwest to the Otter-Beaver confluence, less than a mile from Russell County. The nickname Seedtick was once applied to it and the Wild Kitchen School, a forerunner of the Cabell School.
  26. According to Dobbs' Site Location Report, Elk was the first name proposed for his post office.

27. Otter Creek, above its Carpenter Fork confluence, was identified on Civil War maps and as late as the mid 1870s on Site Location maps as Van Winkle Creek, named for an early nineteenth century family that had settled in the later Slickford vicinity.
28. The community served by the Wait post office may have been called Old Bethel for the nearby Old Bethel Bible Church some 300 yards west of the creek.
29. One account referred to how happy the users of a treacherous road going down to the creek would be when they reached the top of the next hill beyond. According to another, people would be happy on visiting a local restaurant at the top of the hill that served "good spirits". The neighborhood, still of undetermined size, is between Zula and the Clinton County line, centering on (the present) Patton's Store on the north side of old 90, opposite Rte. 1009, 0.8 miles east of the county line and 1.1 road miles west of Zula (i.e. 11.4 road miles wsw of Monticello).
30. In 1894 Zula and her younger sister Mollie were brought to Wayne County by their parents from Illinois. Zula later married "Black John" Perdue and by the 1970s was living as a widow in San Bernardino, California. According to her sister (interviewed by the author on November 3, 1974) Ramey was so attracted to the child that when asked for a name for his new post office he offered hers. This has been disputed by those who believed the post office was named for the mill that bore the name long before her arrival in Wayne County. But they've never been able to account for the mill's name. Nor is there evidence that the mill had a name before the establishment of the post office.



31. By now, new Ky 90 had been built between Susie and the Clinton line, bypassing the post office on the south by 0.2 miles.
32. Sunnybrook is best known for its oil pool. Dil was being drilled at several vicinity sites as early as 1901. At least eight wells are known to have been sunk on Dalton's farm.
33. Denney, in his application, stated that while he preferred the historic name Lonerock he would accept one of a list of alternative names including Cyrus (for his father), Minnie, Hubert, Lillie, Obie, and Hunter (for other family members).
34. The "Red Brick Building" is said to have been built by Cornelius Ambrose Weaver sometime in the 1880s. After the close of the Weaverton post office but by 1900 its site was locally called The Crossroads. This was a misnomer; until the recent re-routing of Ky 90 away from Mill Springs that made this a true crossroads, the site was merely the junction of two roads--the Burnside Road (old 90) and the Betsey-Mill Springs or Meadow Creek Road (now Rte. 1619).
35. Old 90 at this junction is now referred to as the Old Ky 90 Loop Number One Road.
36. From 1868 to 1876 Joshua was Wayne County Judge.
37. According to local tradition, this community may first have been called Shindig.
38. Glenn Twyford, interviewed by the author on August 7, 1974
39. According to an 1875 deed, Shearer Valley was then also known as Grassy.
40. The Chestnut Grove Neighborhood extended between Howard Hill, just south of Sunnybrook, and Bald Rock (on the Clinton County appendage, one fourth of a mile from the Tennessee line), two air miles south. It was settled before the Civil War by a

family of Lockharts and named then for a grove of trees in the vicinity of the Chestnut Grove Church east of 200.

41. Not even the pronunciation of its name is known. The few area residents who will even venture a pronunciation call it hā/əs or haws. And some vaguely recall a rural neighborhood of scattered homes centering at the Molly Haas Carter place somewhere between Otter Creek and Old Susie.
42. Most twentieth century published maps erred in applying this name to the vicinity served by the Stop post office. A fifteen minute topographic map (1911) identified that vicinity as Ramsey Branch for the 1.7 mile long Otter Creek tributary that heads there. It may also early have been called Mount Union for the local church, and even once may have been nicknamed Seedtick.
43. Sonja Foley, "Stop, Kentucky" Green River Sprite and Bugle, June 25, 1972, P. 9. As expected, the name has also inspired a number of anecdotes, not to be taken seriously, like the one about the man passing through who asks the name of the post office. "Stop", he's told. "I can't stop," he says, "I'm in a hurry to make Cabell...by sundown."
44. Local tradition has it that Denney and his neighbors preferred the Windy City appellation but feared that mail would be misdirected to Chicago, also known as "the Windy City". In any case, the Wayne County vicinity is still locally called Windy City.



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